

## SYP 4520 – Criminology

Summer B 2022 Syllabus

Online Asynchronous

Instructor Information:

Clementine Ellis (She/Her/Hers)

Office Hours:

Tuesday's 12-2pm (or by appointment)

Over Zoom

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### **Course Description:**

This online asynchronous course will introduce students to fundamental criminological concepts, terminology, theories and measurement. Students will be introduced to the ways sociologists conceptualize and study crime, and begin to critically examine and assess different ways of responding to crime. Students will also examine how social context and social location contribute to how individuals interact with and are impacted by crime and the criminal justice system. Lastly, we will critically examine crime prevention policies and practices, policing strategies, and mass incarceration.

### **Course Objectives:**

- Explain, apply and assess the major theories used by sociologists to study crime.
- Differentiate and critically evaluate the measurement devices and data sources criminologists use to measure and track criminal behavior and victimization.
- Analyze and interpret data on the social context of various types of criminal behavior, including the characteristics of offenders, victims, bystanders and the location in which crimes occur.
- Critically analyze data and research to assess policies and programs that provide effective responses to crime.

**Student Learning Objectives:** The general education student learning outcomes (SLOs) describe the knowledge, skills and attitudes that students are expected to acquire while completing a general education course at the University of Florida. The SLOs fall into three categories: content, communication, and critical thinking:

Content is knowledge of the concepts, principles, terminology and methodologies used within the discipline. Students demonstrate competence in the terminology, concepts, methodologies and theories used within the discipline.

Communication is the development and expression of ideas in written and oral forms. Students communicate knowledge, ideas, and reasoning clearly and effectively in written or oral forms appropriate to the discipline.

Critical thinking is characterized by the comprehensive analysis of issues, ideas, and evidence before accepting or formulating an opinion or conclusion. Students analyze information carefully and logically from multiple perspectives, using discipline specific methods, and develop reasoned solutions to problems.

### **Textbook:**

There is no textbook for this class, and all course readings will be available through Canvas or online through the UF library.

### **Course Requirements:**

Weekly Quizzes: 30%

Weekly Discussion Posts and Responses: 40%

Response Essays: 15%

Final Essay: 15%

### **Weekly Quizzes:**

Each week you will have a short quiz on Canvas on the topic of that week's lectures and readings. You have an unlimited number of attempts on the quiz, so I recommend taking and retaking it until you receive a 100%, to ensure that you have a solid understanding of course concepts. Quizzes should be completed before every Friday by midnight.

### **Weekly Discussion Posts:**

Every week, you will contribute to our course discussion board. You will be required to respond to the prompt in at least 150 words, referencing relevant course topics from the week. Discussion Posts are due every Friday by midnight. There are 6 discussion posts in the course total. Posts will be graded on completeness and how well they incorporate and engage with course concepts.

### **Response Essays:**

This class has 2 response essays. Essays should be 500 words minimum, incorporate relevant course concepts and readings, and be written in academic languages. You are not required to cite anything or use outside sources, but if you choose to please make sure you use correct in-text citations and reference formatting. I don't care which citation style you use, as long as it is consistent.

### **Final Essay:**

Your final essay should be 1000 words minimum, and incorporate course concepts and terminologies. More details on the final essay can be found on the assignment's page. You are not required to cite anything or use outside sources, but if you choose to please make sure you use correct in-text citations and reference formatting. I don't care which citation style you use, as long as it is consistent.

**Grading Scale:**

A	92.5-100	C	72.5-76.4
A-	89.5-92.4	C-	69.5-72.4
B+	86.5-89.4	D+	66.5-69.4
B	82.5-86.4	D	62.5-66.4
B-	79.5-82.4	D-	59.5-62.4
C+	76.5-79.4	E	<59.5

Grades will not be curved, and final grades will not be calculated beyond one decimal point. For example, a 79.48 is a C+, not a B

UF Grading Policies:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/UGRD/academic-regulations/grades-grading-policies/>

**Late Assignments Policy:**

All coursework and assignments should be submitted on time and in the specified format. As this course has assignments due every week, I strongly advise you to stay on the course schedule. Please contact me ASAP if you know an assignment will be late so we can work on a plan for you to turn it in.

**On Course Speed:**

This course covers a semester's worth of material in six weeks. Therefore, the course moves relatively quickly, and requires you to do a significant amount of work in a short time span. It is imperative that you stay on top of course content and activities to succeed, and I strongly recommend not falling behind.

**Accessibility:**

I will make every effort to accommodate students with disabilities (e.g. mental health, learning, chronic health, physical hearing, vision, neurological, etc.). You must have established your eligibility for support services through the appropriate office that

services students with disabilities. Note that services are confidential and may take time to put into place. Please contact the campus office as soon as possible if accommodations are needed. For more information, please visit:

<https://disability.ufl.edu/services/accommodations/>

### **Academic Integrity**

All UF students are bound by the UF honor code:

<https://sccr.dso.ufl.edu/policies/student-honor-code-student-conduct-code/>

Any violation of academic integrity will be reported to the UF disciplinary system. If you have any questions about this policy, please feel free to reach out.

### **Course Evaluations:**

Students are expected to provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/> . Evaluations are typically open during the last two or three weeks of the semester, but students will be given specific times when they are open. Summary results of these assessments are available to students at <https://gatorevals.aa.ufl.edu/>

### **Communication:**

Email is the most efficient way to communicate with me. Please allow 48 hours for a response, after which time please resend your email, as I may not have received it. All email communication should be professional in nature.

### **Course Conduct and Discussions:**

A significant percentage of your grade within this course is based upon participating in and contributing to online discussions. This course includes discussions of sensitive and potentially controversial topics, and it is imperative that our discussions remain respectful in tone, and that any comments made in course discussion threads are considerate of those with different perspectives and opinions. Due to the nature of course topics, and in an effort to facilitate the most productive and fruitful discussions possible, there are a few guidelines to follow within course discussions:

1. Criticize ideas, not individuals
2. Don't freeze people in time: Allow yourself and your fellow students the space to change and adjust their opinions and perspectives.
3. "Vegas Rules": What happens in the class, stays in the class. Throughout our course discussions, your classmates may choose to share personal details about themselves and their experiences. It is important that we avoid sharing or discussing these details with those outside of our class.
4. Avoid intentionally inflammatory statements, "you" statements, or personal attacks of any kind.

## Course Schedule and Assigned Readings:

Week and Module	Readings	Assignments
<p>Week 1 June 27th-July 1st</p> <p>The Sociology of Crime and Deviance</p>	<p>Read through the syllabus and email me any questions you may have!</p> <p><i>Criminology</i></p> <p><i>Deviance and Social Control</i></p> <p><i>The Power of Oppression: Understanding the History of Criminology as a Science of Oppression</i></p>	<p>Read the assigned readings for the week.</p> <p>Contribute to the Class Discussion Board</p> <p>Complete Weekly Quiz</p>
<p>Week 2 July 4th-July 8th</p> <p>Measuring Crime</p>	<p><i>Longitudinal Data and Their Uses</i></p> <p><i>When Choice of Data Matters: Analyses of U.S. Crime Trends, 1973–2012 (Abstract only)</i></p> <p><i>The Nation's two crime measures</i></p> <p><i>The quantitative–qualitative divide in criminology: A theory of ideas' importance, attractiveness, and publication</i></p> <p><i>Putting a Face on the Dark Figure: Describing Victims Who Don't Report Crime</i></p>	<p>Read the assigned readings for the week.</p> <p>Contribute to the Class Discussion Board</p> <p>Complete Weekly Quiz</p> <p><b>Response Essay #1 Due July 10th</b></p>

<p>Week 3</p> <p>July 11th-15th</p> <p>Classic Crime Theory</p>	<p><i>An Examination of Deterrence Theory: Where Do We Stand?</i></p> <p><i>Researching Theories of Crime and Deviance (RTCD): Chapter 7</i></p> <p><i>STRAIN, PERSONALITY TRAITS, AND DELINQUENCY: EXTENDING GENERAL STRAIN THEORY (Intro, Background, Summary and Conclusion)</i></p> <p><i>An Introduction to Criminological Theory (Chapter 9)</i></p> <p><i>Community Structure and Crime-Testing</i> <i>Social-Disorganization Theory</i></p>	<p>Read the assigned readings for the week.</p> <p>Contribute to the Class Discussion Board</p> <p>Complete Weekly Quiz</p>
<p>Week 4</p> <p>July 18th-22nd</p> <p>Contemporary Crime Theory</p>	<p><i>Potter, Hillary. "An Argument for Black Feminist Criminology: Understanding African American Women's Experiences with Intimate Partner Abuse using an Integrated Approach"</i></p> <p><i>Hillary Potter. "Intersectional Criminology: Interrogating Identity and Power in Criminological Research and Theory"</i></p> <p><i>Carrie L. Buist and Codie Stone. "Transgender Victims and Offenders: Failures of the United States Criminal Justice System and the Necessity of Queer Criminology"</i></p>	<p>Read the assigned readings for the week.</p> <p>Contribute to the Class Discussion Board</p> <p>Complete Weekly Quiz</p> <p><b>Response Essay #2 Due July 24th</b></p>

	<i>The New Jim Crow: Introduction</i>	
<p>Week 5</p> <p>July 25th-29th</p> <p>Crime Prevention</p>	<p><i>The Prevention of Crime: Chapter 1, 3 and 12 (Available online through UF Library)</i></p> <p><i>Preventing Crime: What Works, What Doesn't, What's Promising</i></p>	<p>Read the assigned readings for the week.</p> <p>Contribute to the Class Discussion Board</p> <p>Complete Weekly Quiz</p>
<p>Week 6</p> <p>August 1st-August 5th</p> <p>Policing and Incarceration</p>	<p><i>Cecilia Menjivar et al. "The expansion of "cimmigration," mass detention, and deportation</i></p> <p><i>The New Peculiar Institution</i></p> <p><i>Becoming "Copwise": Policing, Culture, and the Collateral Consequences of Street-Level Criminalization</i></p> <p><i>We Analyzed 29 Years of Police Spending in Hundreds of Cities</i></p> <p><i>Recidivism of Prisoners Released in 24 States in 2008: A 10-Year Follow-Up Period (2008–2018)</i></p>	<p>Read the assigned readings for the week.</p> <p>Contribute to the Class Discussion Board</p> <p>Complete Weekly Quiz</p> <p><b>Final Essay Due August 5th</b></p>